

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/676,205

Examiner

Jianchun Qin

Applicant(s)

OKAZAKI ET AL.

Art Unit

2837

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/29/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,6-11 and 33-44.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

LINCOLN COUNTY
SUPERVISOR OF PATENT EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1, 2, 6-11, and 33-44 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The primary reason for the allowance of claims 1, 2, 7-9, and 33-37 is the inclusion of the limitations of a memory capable of storing n bits data per address, said memory storing a plurality of compressed waveform data segmented into a plurality of frames, wherein a number of bits per sample of the compressed waveform data is variable between the frames, but uniform within each of the frames, each of the frames of the compressed waveform data is stored over a predetermined number j of successive addresses of said memory, and each of the frames includes, in a predetermined layout, an auxiliary information area for storing auxiliary information that includes compression-related information to be used for decompressing the compressed waveform data, and a data area for storing a plurality of samples of the compressed waveform data of the frame, wherein irrespective of the number of bits per sample of compressed waveform data stored in said data area of each frame, each frame is stored over said predetermined number j of successive addresses, wherein said auxiliary information area and data area in each frame are fixed in position irrespective of the number of bits per sample of compressed waveform data stored in

the frame, and wherein said compression-related information includes number-of-bits information indicative of said number of bits per sample within the corresponding one of the frames. It is these limitations found in each of the claims, as they are claimed in the combination that have not been found, taught or suggested by the prior art of record, which make these claims allowable over the prior art.

The primary reason for the allowance of claim 6 is the inclusion of the limitations of a framing section that segments the plurality of samples of waveform data, compressed by said compression processing section, into a plurality of frames to thereby form the frames, wherein each of the frames has a fixed total number of bits and includes a fixed auxiliary information area and a remaining data area, by packing the compressed and segmented waveform data into the data area and packing compression-related information into the auxiliary information area, wherein a number of bits per sample of the packed waveform data is uniform within each of the frames but variable between the frames, wherein irrespective of the number of bits per sample of compressed waveform data stored in said data area of each frame, each frame is stored over said predetermined number j of successive addresses, and said compression-related information includes number-of-bits information indicative of said number of bits per sample within the corresponding one of the frames and decompression parameters to be used for the decompression of said compressed waveform data in the corresponding one of the frames. It is these limitations found in the claim, as they are claimed in the combination that have not been found, taught or suggested by the prior art of record, which make this claim allowable over the prior art.

The primary reason for the allowance of claims 10, 11, and 38-44 is the inclusion of the limitations of a memory capable of storing n bits data per address, said memory storing a plurality of compressed waveform data segmented into a plurality of frames, wherein a number of bits per sample of the compressed waveform data is variable between the frames, but uniform within each of the frames, each of the frames of the compressed waveform data is stored over a predetermined number j of successive addresses of said memory, and each of the frames includes, in a predetermined layout, an auxiliary information area for storing auxiliary information that includes compression-related information to be used for decompressing the compressed waveform data, and a data area for storing a plurality of samples of the compressed waveform data of the frame, wherein irrespective of the number of bits per sample of compressed waveform data stored in said data area of each frame, each frame is stored over said predetermined number j of successive addresses, wherein said auxiliary information area and data area in each frame are fixed in position irrespective of the number of bits per sample of compressed waveform data stored in the frame, and wherein said compression-related information includes number-of-bits information indicative of said number of bits per sample within the corresponding one of the frames; and a temporary storage section that stores the data of the m bits among the data of the m bits, successively read out section, and compressed waveform data retrieves the samples by taking out each of the samples of compressed waveform the data of the m bits stored temporary storage section, in accordance with the readout address generated by said address generation section and the number of bits per

sample designated by said number-of -bits information. It is these limitations found in each of the claims, as they are claimed in the combination that have not been found, taught or suggested by the prior art of record, which make these claims allowable over the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jianchun Qin whose telephone number is (571) 272-5981. The examiner can normally be reached on 8am - 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lincoln Donovan can be reached on (571) 272-1988. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

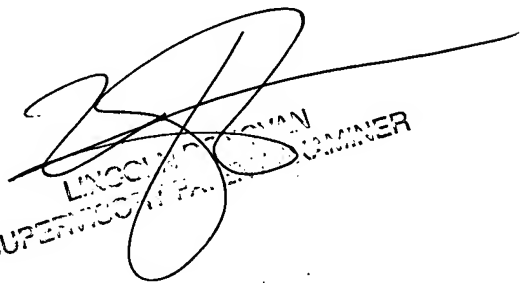
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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Jianchun Qin
Examiner
Art Unit 2837

JQ 


LINCHUN QIN
SUPERVISOR OF PATENT EXAMINER